## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



## 10/510356

(43) International Publication Date 23 October 2003 (23.10.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2003/087886 A3

(51) International Patent Classification7:

G11B 3/70

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2003/010668

(22) International Filing Date:

7 April 2003 (07.04.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/370,463

5 April 2002 (05.04.2002) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): FLEX-PLAY TECHNOLOGIES, INC. [US/US]; 274 Madison Avenue, Suite 1500, New York, NY 10016 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): AJZAL, Robert, S. [US/US]; 300 Doyle Avenue, Providence, RI 02906 (US). CONROY, Jeffrey [US/US]; 37 Linden Avenue, Rumford, RI 02916 (US). LAWANDY, Nabil, M. [US/US]; 169 Eastwock Road, North Kingstown, RI 02852 (US).
- (74) Agents: CAREY, Scott, M. et al.; Hale and Dorr LLP, 300 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022 (US).

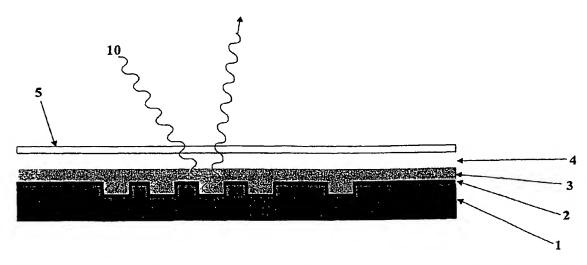
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

## Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 25 March 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: LIMITED PLAY OPTICALLY-READABLE MEDIUM WITH LIQUID CRYSTALS AND METHODOLOGY THERE-



(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus are disclosed for limiting the readability of optically-readable medium, wherein a combination of a liquid crystal material and a wavelength shifting material are incorporated into the optically-readable medium. The liquid crystal material is selected to substantially interfere with the reading beam of a reading device. The wavelength shifting material is selected to shift the wavelength at which the liquid crystal interferes with the reading beam so that the reading beam can read the optically-readable medium. A predetermined stimulus causes the liquid crystal material to shift back to a configuration that substantially interferes with the reading beam so that the reading beam can no longer read the content on the optically readable medium.





International application No.

PCT/US03/10668

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  IPC(7) : G11B 3/70  US CL : 430/270.1,270.15,20; 369/283  According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC  B. FIELDS SEARCHED					
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 430/270.1,270.15,20; 369/283					
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched none					
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) West; search terms: LC, liquid crystal\$6, LCs, optical, data, media, medium, disk, disc					
C. DOCT	JMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
<u>x</u>	US 5,353,247 A (FARIS) 04 October 1994 (04.10.19 in columns 5-6.	94), figures 2,3 and corresponding text	1-3,5-8,18-20,22- 25,29-30		
Y			1-30		
x	US 5,838,653 A (FAN et al.) 17 November 1998 (17 and corresponding text particularly in columns 23-25	7.11.1998), see figures 15a-d,25a-33g and 46-53.	1-3,5-11,13-20,22-30		
Y	min contesponding conspicuous		1-30		
х	JP 63-144433 A (NEC CORP) 16 June 1988 (16.06.1	1988), Figure 1 and abstract	1-16,18-25 and 29-30		
	information		1-30		
Y	JP 2001-241856 A (MISUBISHI CHEM. CORP.) 14 1, 2 abstract and [0007-0016]	September 2001 (14.09.2001) figures	1-30		
Y	US 6,338,933 B1 (LAWANDY et al.) 15 January 20	1-30			
Y	US 5,925,433 A (DUBBELDAM et al.) 20 July 1999	1-30			
Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.			
• s	pecial categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the Inte date and not in conflict with the applic	cation but cited to understand the		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		principle or theory underlying the inve	ention claimed invention cannot be		
"E" earlier ap	plication or patent published on or after the international filing date	considered novel or cannot be considered when the document is taken alone	red to involve an inventive step		
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)		"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination			
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		being obvious to a person skilled in the			
priority d	t published prior to the international filing date but later than the late claimed	"&" document member of the same patent			
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report  2 1 JAN 2004			
05 January 2004 (05.01.2004)  Name and mailing address of the ISA/US		Authorized officer	LUUT		
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US		2.4			
Commissioner for Patents		Mark Huff Jean Pr	ocite de		
Ale	D. Box 1450 exandria, Virginia 22313-1450	Telephone No. 703-308-0661			

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230
Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

PCT/US	03/1	0668

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages			
C. (Contin	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages US 5,019,476 A (KANNO et al.) 28 May 1991 (28.05.1991) see example 2.	Relevant to claim No. 1-30		

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)